

On December 22, 2010, the Nebraska Supreme Court adopted the following amendments to Neb. Ct. R. §§ 1-501, 1-506(E), and 1-507(B), which amendments are effective January 1, 2011.

§ 1-501. Introduction.

It is essential to the public that judges and judicial branch employees continue their education in order to maintain and increase their professional competence, to fulfill their obligations under the Nebraska Revised Code of Judicial Conduct, and to ensure the delivery of quality judicial services to the people of the State of Nebraska. These rules establish minimum requirements for judicial branch education for all Nebraska judges and judicial branch employees.

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§ 1-506. Credit for participation.

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(E) Judicial Branch Education credits shall not be given to judges for attendance at programs not sponsored by Nebraska Judicial Branch Education which do not adhere to ethical standards of the Nebraska Revised Code of Judicial Conduct, including, but not limited to, ~~Canon 4, section 4H~~ § 5-303.14. It is the responsibility of the individual judge who seeks to participate in a nonsponsored judicial branch education activity to ensure that the program agenda is appropriately balanced and that attendance at such program complies with the Nebraska Revised Code of Judicial Conduct.

§ 1-507. Sanctions for failure to comply with mandatory education rules.

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(B) In the event a judge fails to comply with these rules, the Committee shall promptly notify the judge of the noncompliance by sending a notice thereof to the judge at the judge's principal place of office. The statement of noncompliance shall advise the judge that within 30 days a plan to correct the noncompliance must be submitted to the Committee for its consideration and approval. Should the judge fail to correct the noncompliance within a reasonable period of time, the Committee shall report the noncompliance to the Nebraska Judicial Qualifications Commission as a possible violation of ~~Canon III~~ § 5-302.0, Canon 2, of the Nebraska Revised Code of Judicial Conduct. Furthermore, the Supreme Court may enter an order requiring the judge to appear and show cause why sanctions should not be imposed by the Court against the judge for willful failure to comply with these rules of the Court.

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